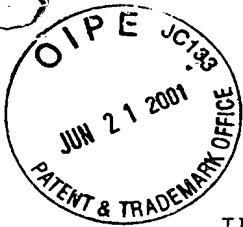


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Attorney Docket: 381AS/42640RE  
PATENT

#5  
7-18-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YASUHIRO KAMIMURA ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/779,710 ✓

Group Art Unit: Unassigned ✓

Filed: FEBRUARY 9, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

**RECEIVED**

Title: AIR FLOW RATE CONTROL APPARATUS

JUN 25 2001

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 21, 2001

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR \$1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

Two articles are provided in response to a European Patent Office Action dated April 4, 2001. An English abstract summarizing the disclosures of one of the two articles is submitted herewith (AK). Applicants are unaware of an English abstract or translation of the other article, which is in German.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. Furthermore, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months

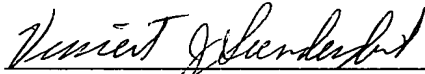
prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and therefore no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 381AS/42640RE).

Respectfully submitted,

June 21, 2001

  
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